



“Rx Washington” Prescription Drug Discount Program

Briefing Report
In Lieu of a Pre-Sunset Review

Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee
September 26, 2007

John Bowden, JLARC Staff

What the Briefing Report Contains



- Information about the sunset review process.
- History of the R_x Washington prescription drug discount program.
- A recommendation for JLARC and a consideration for the Legislature.

What Is a Sunset Review?



A sunset review assesses the degree to which a program or agency is:

- Complying with legislative intent;
- Reaching expected performance goals and targets;
- Operating in an efficient and economical manner; and
- Duplicating activities by another agency or the private sector.

Why a Briefing Report Instead of a Pre-Sunset Review?



- As part of pre-sunset review process, JLARC staff work with agencies to develop:
 - performance measures
 - data collection plan
- However, in starting the pre-sunset work, JLARC staff found that Rx Washington is ***no longer in operation*** and a new drug discount program is in place.

R_x Washington Timeline

June 2004

January 2005

April 2005

January 2006

March 2007

December 2008

December 2009

June 2010

Barring Legislative action, **R_x Washington** terminates.

Recap

- Rx Washington was discontinued in January 2006.
- Another prescription drug discount program (WPDP) has since been implemented.
- WPDP will be part of a JLARC performance audit due December 2008.

Recommendation for JLARC



JLARC accepts this briefing report in lieu of a full sunset review and recommends that the Legislature allow the R_x Washington prescription drug discount program to terminate on June 30, 2010, as current law stipulates.

Consideration for Legislative Action



The Legislature repeals the R_x Washington prescription drug discount program and amends the Sunset Act to remove requirements that JLARC conduct a sunset review. This option requires legislative action in either the 2008 or 2009 legislative session.



Final Note

Absent JLARC or legislative action, JLARC must conduct a full sunset review of the discontinued R_x Washington prescription drug discount program by December 2009.

Contact Information



John Bowden

360-786-5298

bowden.john@leg.wa.gov

www.jlarc.leg.wa.gov